

Would you be willing to elect the President or Congressmen by our system, i. e., for life? You wouldn't call this a republic; if you did, would you?

5. Rotation is not contrary to Scripture. True it is not commanded in the Bible, but neither is the Sunday school, or Christian Endeavor, or Women's Auxiliary, or our Executive Committees, or a whole lot of things in our church order. Where things are not contrary to Bible principles, they are to be decided by consecrated common sense. That is the principle that the church moves on. And it is right. Mighty little is said in the Bible about elders and deacons, and nothing about life tenure.

6. Rotation would revive many a discouraged church. The big church with fifteen elders can steam-roller a crank or obstructionist. But what about the little church with three or four, especially if he is old or rich or influential? The only hope for that church is the undertaker. Take a case drawn from life. Three elders in a country church. One about eighty and as cranky as they make them and disliked by all, but a moral man who attends church and pays his part of the expenses. Another just as cranky or a little crankier, though younger and very healthy. The other elder, wide awake and progressive and consecrated. Is it any wonder that this church is all but dead? How apply the Book of Church Order system to this church? Rotation would do the work beautifully and so painlessly.

In conclusion, the above is not written to disparage the good officers. God bless them and use them as He has in the past. They hold their office as a channel of service and not as an empty honor. But should not they stand up for their rights and see that if their unworthy fellows get right or get out? Every elder owes it to himself to vote for rotation, if he is at Presbytery when the question comes up for decision.

ONE HOUR PROGRAMME.

By Rev. T. A. Patton.

I have three churches to supply in Columbia, Tenn., and its vicinity, and being unable to preach three times each day and, desiring to give the city church two services, we adopted the following plan which seems pleasing and helpful to all.

A committee was appointed, consisting of the teachers of each class in the Sabbath school and an additional young lady for a secretary. This committee arranges a program of five or six numbers to be prepared by the different members of the classes and any member of the church they may enlist, and there is seldom a refusal. These numbers consist of the Devotional, made up, as devotionals usually are, with songs, prayer, Scripture reading. The other numbers are recitations of Psalms by one class or individual; reciting the books of the Bible; helpful poems; recital of several Catechism questions; original paper on some subject selected by the writer or a synopsis of the Sunday school lesson; a reading by some of the younger people or a short lecture by some of the older people. We try to make all feel easy and free, as well as keep them in a devotional frame of spirit. This occupies half hour and then the pastor or some one appointed takes charge of the half-hour Bible questionnaire. Seven chapters of the Bible have been previously announced (one for each day of the week); these have been read with a view to getting the facts of Scripture; and the pastor prepares about fifty questions on the seven chapters which are to be answered from what

has been remembered from the week's reading. All present are to feel free to answer or free not to answer as they are disposed, and the announcement is made that no one will be censured for not answering, so that the pleasant and free feeling may continue through this part of the programme, as well as the first. The little, the large, the old and the young take a part with much delight.

We have just completed Genesis and now take Exodus and have a copy of the book of Exodus for each one who will have it, so that they may carry it in the pocket and read in spare moments. These little booklets may be had from the American Bible Society. We believe that the Word of God gotten into the soul of man will do its work. We have also laid down a challenge to the whole membership of our church, who have not already done so, to memorize the Child's and Shorter Catechism. They are called for by old and young. It is all very interesting, and the people are coming.

"MADE BY FIRE."

By Mrs. J. F. Lawson.

"Ye shall offer an offering made by fire,"
'Twas His way with His people of old;
Nor one whit has He changed the method by which
He still refineth His gold.

Shall we falter and shrink at the touch of the flame,

When we know 'tis His own blessed way?
That He walks through the heat of the furnace
with us,

Keeping watch o'er His gold, night and day.

Keeping watch while the flame of sevenfold heat
Burns hotter and fiercer and higher
Midst the lust of our flesh the lust o' our eyes,
Till they shrink and shrivel in the fire.

Oh! then shall we not be still in His hand,
Fearing not the hot breath of the flame,
Since an offering of ours, lest it be "made by
fire,"

Ne'er can be 'to the praise of His name."
Little Rock, Ark.

ADVERTISING THE SERVICES OF THE CHURCH.

By Charles H. Pratt, D. D.

Clearly one of the great problems of the church of our day is to bring its blessings to the masses of the people who are indifferent to the claims of religion. Jesus did many things to draw attention to Himself and His work. In one of His parables He said that He would willingly compel men to come into the Kingdom.

Trinity Presbyterian Church has used a number of methods in the field of publicity to bring the message of Christ to the attention of the city of Montgomery. It has used the daily press, putting a gospel message in regularly. It keeps the press informed of matters of religious interest that its people are engaged in. It has erected billboards on which there are Scripture quotations giving their message seven days a week. It distributes copies of the bulletin to be used at the following Sunday service on the Saturday preceding. This attracts many who would not otherwise think of the church.

Another simple method recently used is a blotter of which it has distributed more than 3,000. By printing short advertisements of business concerns at each end with all the services of the church in the center, it has made the advertisements more than pay for the cost, and the Christian Endeavor Society has distributed them with a personal invitation to attend church. Incidentally it has given the

young people something that they can do for the church, and that is always a difficult task for a minister. We have now five Christian Endeavor Societies with an enrollment of more than 250.

Montgomery, Ala.

THE CHRISTIAN WAY TO LIVE.

Many people have a strangely perverted faculty for exaggerating their mole hills of trouble into mountains, and then of looking at their blessings through diminishing lenses. A cheerful heart always finds brightness, while an unhappy spirit sees nothing but discouragement in even the most favorable conditions. One person is happy in the narrowest circumstances, while another is wretched in a luxurious home with every want supplied. Some persons never see anything to be thankful for. They may attend a service of praise on Thanksgiving Day; but they are not in a joyful mood, and not the first strain of thanksgiving rises from their hearts. They never stop complaining long enough to allow a grateful thought to nest in their hearts. They keep themselves always in such a mood of discontent that no note of praise is ever heard from their lips. One would think, to hear them talk about their trials, that God does not love them, and that no favor ever comes into their lives. Yet really they do not have any more than their share of human suffering, while they certainly have a full portion of blessing and good.

But this is not the way for a Christian to live. We dishonor God when we indulge in unhappiness and refuse to be grateful. We spoil our own lives and make existence wretched for ourselves when we insist on seeing only the black. Then we make it harder for others to live, casting the burden of our gloom upon them. We should train ourselves just as carefully and conscientiously to be thankful and songful as we do to be truthful, honest, kind, or thoughtful.—Rev. J. R. Miller, D. D.

OBEYING ORDERS.

Posted up at the railroad stations and in the post-offices are notices by the Government calling for young men to join the army. A young man is left to his own choice whether he will join the army or not, but once enlisted, he is no longer left to his own course. If Uncle Sam says for him to go to China or the Philippines, there he must go, and there is no alternative. If he declines to obey orders he is dismissed from the service, and that, too, under disgrace. It is none the less true when we enlist under the Captain of our salvation, that we are in service and must obey orders. The order is to go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. William Duncan was once asked if he would go to the Indians of the great Northwest. He replied by saying he would go anywhere in the world where he was sent, and if need be he could be ready in an hour.

All along our coasts are saving stations. Now and then a ship is dashed upon the rocks and many are in the perils of the deep. Just where it may happen no one can tell; but there is a constant lookout from the shore for shipwrecked mariners, and wherever it may happen, there the rescuing party hastens, with all speed to render all possible assistance. Often this is accompanied with great hardships and perils. But no man enlisted in the service thinks for a moment of drawing back because of these things. Can a Christian do less?—J. M. McCaleb.